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COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ECONOMIC COOPERATION ORGANIZATION

Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey and Turkmenistan: revised draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/2 of 13 October 1993, by which it granted observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Recalling also its resolution 50/1 of 12 October 1995, by which it affirmed the need to strengthen the cooperation that already exists between the entities of the United Nations system and the Economic Cooperation Organization in the areas of economic and social development,

Recalling further that the Charter of the United Nations provides for the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters as maintenance of international peace and security and economic cooperation as are appropriate for regional action, provided that their activities are consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind that the Treaty of Izmir, signed at Izmir, Turkey, on 12 March 1977, later revised at Ashgabat on 11 May 1996 and signed at Izmir on 14 September 1996, created a permanent body for intraregional cooperation, consultation and coordination in order to enhance economic, social and cultural development,

Taking note of the Ashgabat Declaration issued at the Fourth Summit Meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the member States of the Economic Cooperation Organization at Ashgabat on 14 May 1996,

Taking note also of the recent measures by the member Governments of the Economic Cooperation Organization to revitalize that organization through the adoption of a new charter of the organization and related documents on its reorganization and restructuring,

Convinced that the maintenance and further strengthening of the cooperation between the United Nations system and the Economic Cooperation Organization promote the implementation of the goals and principles of the organization,

1. Takes note of the decision of the Heads of State and Government of the member States of the Economic Cooperation Organization welcoming the adoption of General Assembly resolution 50/1 on cooperation between the two organizations and endorsing the cooperative arrangements entered into by the Economic Cooperation Organization with various entities of the United Nations system for joint efforts towards the implementation of the economic projects and programme of the Economic Cooperation Organization;

2. Notes with satisfaction the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations[1] on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/1 and invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations to continue his efforts, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Economic Cooperation Organization, to promote and expand cooperation and coordination between both secretariats in order to increase the capacity of the two organizations to attain their common objectives;

3. Welcomes the inauguration of the Tejan-Sarakhs-Mashad railway line, which illustrates the significance of the alternative road and railway links which exist or are being developed in order to provide the land-locked countries of the region of the Economic Cooperation Organization further access to the seaport facilities in the Indian Ocean, the Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman and the Caspian, Black, Mediterranean and Aegean Seas;

4. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to initiate, maintain and increase consultation and programmes with the Economic Cooperation Organization and its associated institutions in the attainment of their objectives;

5. Takes note of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolution 52/11 of 24 April 1996[2] on the strengthening of subregional economic cooperation among the south-western member countries of the Commission, including the member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization, in which the Commission is called upon to promote economic and technical cooperation in trade, investment, and transport and communications among member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the request therein to the Executive Secretary of the Commission to report to the Commission at its

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[1] A/51/265.

[2] See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1996, Supplement No. 16 (E/1996/36), chap. IV.

fifty-fourth session in 1998 on the progress in the implementation of that resolution;

6. Calls upon the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, as the regional arm of the United Nations having all member States of the Economic Cooperation Organization as its members, to assume a specific role in promoting cooperation with the Economic Cooperation Organization;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization".